

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES/METHODS/EXEMPTION 3B26
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE, 2006

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION
SECRET

PROCESSING

TO	Chief, SR	PRO- POSED	ACTION	ACCOM- PLISHED
INFO.	Chief, WE COS, Germany, COB, Frankfurt		MARKED FOR INDEXING	
FROM	[Signature]		NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
SUBJECT	REDDWOOD/LC IMPROVE/C Traces and Comments Received from SMOTH on Ref Queries		ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
ACTION REQUIRED - RECOMMENDED	A. DIR 45637, 8 June 1963 B. DIR-46770, 14 June 1963		ABSTRACT	
			INDEX/FILE	

ACTION REQUIRED - RECOMMENDED

- A. DIR 45637, 8 June 1963
- B. DIR-46770, 14 June 1963

1. [] has just received the attached comments and traces in answer to reference KUBARK queries. The SMOTH information and comments and traces are detailed and specific so we do not feel highlights could be selected and summarized meaningfully for forwarding by cable, as requested in references.

2. Regarding paragraph 3 we are advising the ODENVY representative re the SMOTH information on ARUNAS alias JURGETIS.

3. We would appreciate Headquarters comments in reply to paragraph 4 of SMOTH's cover letter to their traces. It should also be noted that in paragraph 6 SMOTH calls attention to the point that SMOTH desires KUBARK to indicate the information on which KUBARK's request for traces was based and reason for the request. This obviously emanates from difficulty which SMOTH encountered in servicing this request and their dilemma as to what information to produce for us from their (perhaps) rather voluminous records on this subject.

Attachment - SMOTH letter and traces

Distribution:

- 3 - Chief, SR w/Att herewith ✓
- 3 - Chief, WE w/Att herewith
- 2 - COS, Germany w/Att herewith
- 2 - COB, Frankfurt w/Att herewith

COPY TO: []

1 2 w/att

3

CIA/N/6/12/C1.w/att

CROSS-REFERENCE TO

CLASS 1

Excluded from automatic

DATE TYPED
6 Aug 63

DATE DISPATCHED

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER

OELA-39020

HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER

774

What do I

1. You will recall that in the decade after the Second World War, Western Intelligence Agencies, among them the French, Swedish, British and American intelligence services, employed émigrés from the Baltic States against the Russian target.

2. All the persons described in this letter with the exception of VENKAS VOKETAITIS were in direct or indirect touch with SMOTH during this period. The last operations using Baltic émigrés were dropped by SMOTH in early 1957, since it had become by then patently obvious that operations by Western Agencies in this milieu were either controlled or thoroughly penetrated by the R.I.S. The pattern was that the Russians controlled the basic organisations, which may or may not have been wholly notional, and either "planted" or turned some of the couriers and plenipotentiaries travelling between the organisations in the field and the émigré headquarters in Sweden, Germany, France and U.K.

3. The information given on the persons mentioned in your letters does not appear to reflect all the information which must be available to your headquarters. We wonder what has caused the renewed interest in these persons. In this connexion, we draw your attention to the letter on the subject of ARUNIS alias JURGUTIS from ODENVY.

We would be grateful if you would advise ODENVY that you have had this reply and copy to him any material from it that he needs.

4. In our view, it does not follow from paragraph 2 above that émigré agents such as ZNEVICIUS, VOKETAITIS, ZILINSKIS and SANEVICIUS were necessarily turned or recruited by the Russians; ZNEVICIUS, for example, was one of several Lithuanian émigré leaders denounced by DESKINYS in the Soviet press in 1960 (see para. 8 of attachment). You will doubtless have examined whether the information on which you have based your request does not have its origin in a further Russian attempt to discredit these émigrés in Western eyes. You will note that some of the allegations in your information about contact with the Russians by these persons conflicts or is not borne out by our records.

..... / 5.

~~SECRET~~
per GSN 43-43 ~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

5. We apologise for the delay in replying to your queries. Considerable research has been necessary on dead files which describe the activities of these persons in voluminous detail, most of it now of only historical value.

6. We hope that you will not take it amiss if we ask that, if you have any further requests for information on these men or other associates, you supply us with the information upon which you base your request, together with your comments on its accuracy judged by your records. Without this yardstick, we have no means of assessing whether the information we hold is relevant to your enquiries; nor if we are using our limited resources to supply you with information of which you are already fully cognisant.

7. We hope the traces in the attachment will meet your needs.

~~SECRET~~

1. Your para. A.

S. EVA ZMELTAS-ZAKEVICIUS - Lithuanian - was employed as an agent by SMITH in World War II against the German target and later between 1947 - 56. He was in U.K. from 13 May '48 to 21 January '57. He left U.K. for Germany to take up employment with the Voice of America on 21 January '57. He enlisted our help in July '59 to have his travel documents reviewed. We have no subsequent record of him. We hold no evidence that he was a member of an N.K.V.D.-sponsored group in 1941. He was attacked in the Soviet Lithuanian press in 1948 as a German collaborator and his return for trial as a war criminal was demanded by "46 professors". He was later attacked by DESSARYS in the Soviet press in 1950. There is no record that he visited either POLAND or SWEDEN in 1948 and we think this story can be discounted since we were in touch with him throughout that year in Germany and in the U.K. From the following account of his appointments supplied by ZAKEVICIUS himself in 1948, it would seem that he was born in KIEV on 22.7.1908 and not in LITHUANIA in 1914 :-

" Born in KIEV 22.7.1908 - Married Marja, 29.2.1908,
Vilmino ZMELTAS ZAKEVICIUS (ZAKUTICIEJE) born
Bizzitka (Bizzitkaite).

1.2.33 : Graduated Law Faculty University of Vytautas the Great in Kaunas.
Master of Law
1.2.35 : Junior assistant at the Law Faculty
1.12.33 : Senior assistant
1.9.34 - : Studies in Paris University Law Faculty
1.2.35 : under Professors Kostre, Yere, Barsuclenos etc.
1.9.35 -
1.9.37 : Rockefeller Foundation Fellow
1.9.35 -
1.8.37 : Studies in the U.S.A. at Harvard University,
under Professors F. Frankfurter, L.B. Lampic,
Roscoe Pound
1936 : Summer Semester at Chicago University
1.9.36 -
1.2.37 : Studies in England at London School of
Economic & Political Sciences under Prof. Robson
1.2.37 -
1.7.37 : Renewed studies in Paris
1.7.37 -
1.9.37 : Geneva League of Nations Library.

In the meantime visits to Oxford University,
Brussels International Institute of Administrative Sciences.

..... / 1937-1939

SECRET

1937 -
1939 Lecturer on administrative law at Kaunas
(Pater Vilnius) University Law Faculty
Professor, Head of the Chair of Administrative
Law from 1939.
1.10.40. Vice Dean of the Law Faculty.

16.7.41 -
1944 Dean of the Law Faculty

Besides, Scientific Adviser at the Council of
State 1938 - 1940, member of various committees
on administrative reforms.

Speciality:- comparative constitutional and
administrative law, public administration."

2. Your para. B.

Dr Algirdas VAIKELAITIS - Lithuanian - was in touch with SMOTR between March '44 and '48. He managed to reach Sweden by fishing boat in October '45, returned to Lithuania and smuggled himself back to Sweden for a second time by similar means in January '46. We have no record that he went back to POLAND and LITHUANIA after that date. He left SWEDEN for U.S.A. on 25 April '49 and was not expected to return. No more has been heard of him.

According to one report, the Lithuanian resistance movement sent three plenipotentiaries to Sweden in 1944 to refer the Lithuania independence organisation abroad. They were :-

- i) VAIKELAITIS
- ii) VYTAUTAS STANEVICIUS-STANEIKA
- iii) Jonas DOKSNIKS

They brought letters of credence with them. VAIKELAITIS was to stay permanently in Sweden.

3. Your para. C.

Vladas ZILINSKIS - Lithuanian - He was born in LIBAU on 14.3.1912. ZILINSKIS was in touch with SMOTR from the end of the War until he emigrated to U.S.A. in June '53. He resided in STOCKHOLM throughout this period. He was First Secretary of the Lithuanian Embassy in Stockholm and remained there throughout the war during which time he was connected with VLKK activities. He worked in Stockholm as an auditor. We cannot confirm the reported Russian connections of his ex-wife in Stockholm and his sister in Washington. We have not heard of him since he left for U.S.A.

4. Your para. D.

JURGUTIS or KESTUTIS or KVSTUTIS alias ARUNAS - Lithuanian

His alleged true name is on record as JUODAS VIZBRA and he was a schoolteacher by Profession. He would now be about 47 years of age. He travelled to U.K. on papers describing him as JCUZAS VILLEVIS, Lithuanian, born KLAIPEDA, LITHUANIA, on January 17, 1919. ARUNAS was exfiltrated to U.K. from POLAND in August 1950. It was subsequently established that the line used was controlled by the U.B. ARUNAS had written from Poland in December 1949 to ZILINSKIS explaining that he had escaped and wished to get in touch with the British authorities on behalf of Lithuanian Resistance. As it proved difficult to exfiltrate ARUNAS, he apparently returned to Lithuania in March 1950 but escaped again to POLAND in the summer of 1950 from whence his exfiltration to Germany and U.K. was effected.

SECRET

- 3 -

affected. ARUMAS related that he had been delegated by an Organization of which the head was a certain DRABELIS. This consisted of both legally and illegally living patriots who required help from the West in order to survive. DRABELIS, it was stated, had nothing to do with Jonas DEKSNIS. ARUMAS himself could give little information regarding the said organisation. He described himself as a schoolmaster and explained that he had been chosen for the mission because he was able to absent himself without arousing suspicion.

ARUMAS returned to LITHUANIA in December 1950 accompanied by two W.T. operators recruited in U.K. Reports were received in January 1953 which also appeared in the Lithuanian Press that the MGB had launched a large-scale operation against the partisans and also that DRABELIS had been liquidated and that DEKSNIS had disappeared. No more was heard of ARUMAS but one of the two W/T operators who accompanied ARUMAS wrote a suspicious series of letters in the Spring of 1953 which claimed that he had survived the attack on DRABELIS. W/T contact was resumed with the operator in the summer of 1953. ARUMAS was the name he used in Lithuanian Resistance circles and certainly not a code-name exclusive to the Russians as suggested in the last but one paragraph of DEKSNIS' letter of June 27, 1963. ARUMAS was the subject of correspondence between our two Services. File destroyed dated 1951 in London is the last reference in this correspondence.

5. Your para. A. Vytautas STANEVICIUS
alias SWANIS also known as Jonas and Jon's Andrei STANEVICIUS.
SF 5000 - Lithuanian. This man was another contact of Smith. According to one report, he was a Lithuanian regular army officer with the rank of Lieutenant or Captain. In April 1946 he came to notice as the companion of DEKSNIS on a clandestine trip to Lithuania from LUBECK via GDR. They arranged to be repatriated but by their own statement eluded registration at the Baltic end and contacted the partisans. STANEVICIUS returned to GDR together with his wife and was successfully evacuated to Sweden in August 1946 with messages and documents from the partisans. He took an active part in Lithuanian emigre politics between 1946 and 1948. He opposed DEKSNIS' attempts to gain control of the whole Lithuanian emigre movement. He did not return to Lithuania; it was suggested he preferred the fleshpots of Lithuania to the rigours of partisan life. He was considered as a possible courier in 1948, at which time he was destitute. His wife, who had had a baby, was sick in hospital. Our last trace of him, dated 1953, described him as "inactive".

6. Your para. B.

Vytautas VONERAITIS

Vytautas VONERAITIS alias BRODIS was the brother of ALGIRDAS VONERAITIS. ARUMAS carried a letter in December '49 from VYTAUTAS to his brother in Lithuania. According to ARUMAS, Vytautas VONERAITIS was a member of the Presidium of the HDPS in March 1950.

7. Your para. C.

PECULIUNAS alias PECHYLUNA(S)

We have a trace of a General PECULIUNAS, one-time head of the Lithuanian partisans, who was reported by STANEVICIUS, as having been killed in 1944. Your enquiry might refer to MYOLAS PECULIUNAS, who was the cut-out of STANEVICIUS in GDR in 1946. PECULIUNAS was in touch with DEKSNIS, who used the same escape route. This was organised by a Pole named Leonard KORNBLAT, whose nephew lived in Stockholm. PECULIUNAS and KORNBLAT were instrumental in evacuating ARUMAS in 1950. Several letters passed between Dr ALGIRDAS VONERAITIS and PECULIUNAS on this subject.

..... / 8.

SECRET

SECRET

- 4 -

8.

JONAS DEKSNYS

It was established that the Jonas DEKSNYS, holder of Swedish Aliens passport No. 4284/45 and Lithuanian passport No. 339/47 was born in LITHUANIA and was residing in HAMILTON, ONTARIO in 1955. He was registered in Sweden on 28.4.1945 i.e. one year before the Lithuanian "partisan" Jonas DEKSNIS, reached Sweden. The photograph of DEKSNYS on passport 339/47 was not that of the "partisan" JONAS DEKSNYS, according to ZAKEVICIUS. The Lithuanian passport was pronounced genuine. The ONTARIO DEKSNYS worked at the ONTARIO MINE from May 10 1949 to May 16 1950, and as a labourer from January 1951 onwards. He is on record as having entered CANADA at HALIFAX on May 6, 1949. He sailed for CANADA on the "GRIPSHOLM" on 28.4.1949. The "partisan", JONAS DEKSNYS was infiltrated into LITHUANIA on 1.5.1949. Letters in secret writing were received from DEKSNIS in LITHUANIA up to mid-July 1950. This correspondence was discussed between KGB and SMOM by which time it was assumed that DEKSNYS was under R.I.S. control. The conversion to Communism by JONAS DEKSNYS was announced in issues Nos. 286 and 287 of TEVINIS BALSAS - Voice of the Fatherland in early 1950. This article denounced ZAKEVICIUS and the British, French and American intelligence services.

SECRET